



US Army Corps
of Engineers®

HEADQUARTERS

ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION NEWS

VOLUME II NUMBER 6

MARCH 2000

MARCH'S THEME:

Strategic Management Review

DWIGHT'S NOTES

This month's theme is Strategic Management Review. We picked this theme to highlight the need for each of us to sit back every once in a while to think about the future and do something to influence it. My days, like yours, leave little time for reflection. It's one hot issue after another. If I did not set aside a small part of my day to work on longer term problems and opportunities I would do nothing but issues management every hour of every day, always treating the symptoms, never curing the disease.

General Ballard recognized early in his tour that the Corps wasn't devoting enough time or thought to its future. Nor were we setting strategic targets and measuring how well we aligned to them. The Command Management Review (CMR), for example, measures how well the Corps executes current programs and initiatives. The Command Management Review (CMR) is geared to the "close-in fight". That's important. If we were to stretch beyond the present, though, the Corps needed a comparable forum to evaluate how well we met strategic objectives. That forum is the new Strategic Management Review (SMR) that is discussed in one of the following E&C Newsletter articles.

We in the E&C community need to align ourselves to the strategic performance measures that are discussed at the SMR among the HQUSACE General Officers and the MSC Commanders. I encourage you to find out more about the SMR measures through your district and division leaders. Then you need to put your weight behind making these objectives come true. It is certainly in our interest because, in so doing we demonstrate that the engineering and construction assets of the Corps are relevant and strategic.

We designed the new HQ Engineering and Construction Division to serve the strategic intent of the Chief, DCG for Civil Works and DCG for Military Programs. We have grouped the E&C functions and competencies to support corporate strategy internally and externally. For the new E&C to be successful, though, we must be at the table when strategy is being formulated and executed. We will be invited to the table by demonstrating day in and day out that we contribute immeasurably to the Corps success.

The same holds true for you.

(Editors' note: If you want to share your thoughts with our readers regarding Dwight's Notes send an email to the E&C News editor (charles.pearre@usace.army.mil). A synopsis of your comments will be published in the next issue.)

ARTICLES

STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT REVIEW

[Strategic Management Review Philosophy](#)

DISTRICT OF THE MONTH

[Louisville District](#)

REORGANIZATION NEWS

[Engineering and Construction Reorganization Continues](#)

UPDATE

[Round the Clock Creosote Soil Remediation Continues - The Southern Maryland Wood Treatment Site](#)

[Design-Build Lessons Learned from Construction Perspective](#)

[CADD/GIS Technology Symposium and Exposition 2000](#)

[Mississippi Valley Division Setting a New Pace for Partnering](#)

[ACASS Y2K Problem](#)

DAM SAFETY

[ICODS Dam Safety Technical Seminar No. 7, Spillway Gates](#)

INFORMATION

[Northeast Training Workshop Steam Restoration: Natural Channel Design](#)

[CADD/GIS Technology Center Products](#)

[Seismic Requirements for Vertical Above Ground Fuel Storage Tanks \(AST\)](#)

[Outstanding Career Opportunity](#)

[Career Opportunity - Kansas City District](#)

[Call for Papers for International Navigation Association](#)

VALUE ENGINEERING

[Defense to Present Value Engineering Awards](#)

ARCHITECT'S FORUM

[Public Architects Training Workshop](#)

TRAINING

[Conferences as Training](#)

EDITORS' NOTES

[Subscribe to ECNEWS](#)

THIS PUBLICATION WILL BE ISSUED ON A MONTHLY BASIS AND DISTRIBUTED BY E-MAIL AND POSTED ON THE INTERNET AT [HTTP://WWW.HQ.USACE.ARMY.MIL/CEMP/E/CEMP-E](http://www.hq.usace.army.mil/CEMP/E/CEMP-E) AND [HTTP://WWW.USACE.ARMY.MIL/INET/FUNCTIONS/CW/CECWE/NOTES](http://www.usace.army.mil/inet/functions/cw/cecwe/notes). IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE ARTICLES OR HAVE SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE ARTICLES, PLEASE CONTACT CHARLES PEARRE, CECW-EP, 202-761-4531.

Strategic Management Review

STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT REVIEW PHILOSOPHY

The S in SMR signals that a strategic corporate perspective has been introduced into corporate level performance review. Traditionally CMR's have focused on measuring the operational performance of the Corps without having a strategic corporate perspective to frame operational performance reviews. This biased us toward a short-term performance focus and contributed to our drilling down into field level operations without the needed corporate perspective to guide the drill down.

The missing strategic perspective is established in the SMR by expressly defining key strategic and corporate level performance questions to guide discussions. Corporate also has a renewed disciplined meaning. When a program review is conducted it is done in the context of its impact upon the corporate whole. In the past program reviews have been done without relating the impact upon the

whole organization. The corporate level questions by their nature will prompt reviewers of corporate level performance to make clear the strategic significance of their discussions during SMR and eventually CMR operational measures. The S in SMR emphasizes that evaluation of corporate performance will focus on the implications of trends and strategic direction in terms of corporate health. This is a Headquarters performance evaluation role, which has been missing from our traditional CMR focus on quarterly operational performance.

The main part of the new SMR is its focus on corporate-wide measures of current overall health and efficiency, and strategic measures aimed at keeping the Corps successfully headed in the right direction. The right direction is established in the corporate strategic plan and strategic goals. None of the SMR measures are specific to a particular division or program; rather they focus on answering strategic questions associated with achieving strategic goals. While in many instances the SMR measure can be peeled back to evaluate specific division or program influence on the corporate measure – never the less the ultimate focus of each SMR measure is to evaluate corporate performance above the program level. Hence, the Deputy Commanding General for Civil Works, for example, does not have sole responsibility for producing, analyzing or explaining any of the corporate indicators, given that the DCW's oversight responsibilities are principally focused only on one program. The DCG(CW) participates with other members of the Strategic Management Board (SMB), the Chief and the division commanders in corporate discussions in which surfacing problems (and solutions) and reaching appropriate management decisions are encouraged. This is a conscious reflection of the fundamental interconnectedness of the corporate parts to the whole. These are the revolutionary parts of the SMR.

Existing CMR indicators have NOT been eliminated. However, as SMR matures, we anticipate that the indicators for the district, division and program levels will be improved versions of the traditional ones we have now and will be closely examined on a monthly basis in PRBs at each organization level with appropriate management decisions resulting. Further, on a quarterly basis the division/program indicators would be developed into CMR charts and included in the Chief's read-ahead package and pre-brief for the HQ CMR -- again, much like the current practice.

As the process matures we anticipate that at the division/program levels, none of the operational indicators would actually be presented for discussion at the CMR. If a problem is indicated, however, it may be a topic of further examination at the CMR, or handled separately as the Chief decides. SMR accomplishes the Chief's desire not to "throw the baby out with the bath water", in preserving the important parts of the old CMR. Where are we in the SMR evolution? Energy and emphasis in SMR evolution are currently directed at establishing and maturing the interconnectedness between the measures so that no one measure is evaluated as an isolated metric. And in populating the measures with solid data and information.

The Deputy Chief of Staff for Resource Management (DCSRM), in partnership with the SMB, has assumed corporate level responsibility for the SMR in addition to the DCSRM's current responsibility for CMR. For the near term, the SMB will continue to have an advocacy roll in the development and maturation of the SMR until the new Business Development Division is operational. The Business Development Division will eventually assume the principle role in performing the corporate review and independently evaluating the SMR performance measures. The SMB can then focus on its ongoing corporate leadership role in guiding the corporate response to the information content of the SMR measures.

POC: TIM HILTZ, CECW-BD, 202-761-4936

[Return to Index of Articles](#)

District of the Month

LOUISVILLE DISTRICT

Welcome to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Louisville District. The District office is located in downtown Louisville, Kentucky. Established in 1886, the Louisville District employs about 1100 people in the five-state area of Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, and Ohio. Louisville, one of the Corps' more diverse districts, has both a civil works and military construction mission. Our civil works boundary encompasses nearly 76,000 square miles of the Lower Ohio River Basin. This includes the Lower Ohio River and its tributaries. The Louisville military construction mission is in support to the Army, Air Force, and Department of Defense facilities within 306,000 square miles located in the 5-state area. Major installations served include Fort Knox, KY, Fort Campbell, KY, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH, and Scott AFB, IL. Average annual construction placement for the military program exceeds \$220,000,000.

Among the many exciting challenges facing the Louisville District is its active Civil Works Navigation Program. Navigation structures, which are operated and maintained on the Ohio River, date from 1830's era structures to the modern high-lift Olmsted Locks and Dam, currently under construction. In addition to the Olmsted structure early construction activities have begun for a new additional 1200 feet long lock facility at McAlpine Locks and Dam. The District also has teamed with Huntington and Pittsburgh Districts for the Ohio River Mainstem Systems Study, which is an assessment of needs within the entire Ohio River Navigation System for the next sixty years. The Louisville District is a leader and innovator in design and construction of navigation facilities.

In-the-wet construction techniques, floating lock approach walls, large diameter caisson construction, precast off-site construction and sophisticated analysis involving seismic analysis, non-linear incremental structural analysis and finite element analysis are areas of expertise currently within the District.

Another area of particular pride for the Louisville District is our commitment to "continuous improvement" in the quality of services we provide to our many customers. In the mid 1990's the Louisville District accepted the challenge to revise its processes and procedures to truly pursue a goal of improved customer satisfaction through delivery of higher quality services and products. As a result of this initiative, the Louisville District Engineering and Construction Divisions are now each registered to the internationally reorganized ISO 9000 standards. Engineering is registered to the 9001 standard and Construction to the 9002 standard. Results have been very positive and trend analyses are showing some significant improvements. There has been a large reduction in controllable cost growth during construction. Customer Satisfaction as demonstrated in our annual surveys has continued to improve. Productivity has continued to climb without a corresponding decrease in quality. In fact just the opposite has been true; not only has productivity increased but also the quality of products being produced has improved. The District's program has continued to grow during this time period in spite of an overall reduction in Corps-wide programs. CELRL is so convinced of the benefit of ISO 9000 registration that plans are currently underway to register the entire Project Management Business Process, which will include all elements of the District's Product Delivery Team.

The Louisville District manages a \$70,000,000-\$80,000,000 annual Hazardous, Toxic, Radiological Waste (HTRW) program. This includes both the Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP) and Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) program within our five-state military boundaries. Several have significant public and media attention. One of the District's larger DERP projects is the remediation of contamination at the former Joliet Army Ammunition Plant. This project alone includes 15,000 cubic yards of explosives and asbestos contaminated construction debris, 6,800 tons of PCB-contaminated soil, and approximately 250,000 cubic yards of explosives-contaminated soil which will undergo bioremediation at an on-site treatment facility. The District's current DERP program is approximately \$40,000,000 annually and is expected to increase over the next few years; the annual BRAC program is also in the \$30,000,000 - \$40,000,000 range.

The District is currently utilizing several different types of contracting tools to accomplish its HTRW mission. These include Preplaced Remedial Action Contracts (PRAC), Engineer (Investigation and Design) Services Contracts, Small Action Remedial Type Contracts (SmART), and a Total Environmental Restoration Contract (TERC). CELRL also maintain numerous blanket purchase agreements to conduct laboratory and drum disposal tasks.

The Louisville District also maintains an Installation Support Office (ISO), *not to be confused with the ISO 9000 standard*, that was established by the Chief of Engineers in December 1998, with the mission of small project development, O&M technical services, and guidance to installation DPW's and MACOM's. Working in conjunction with the Corps of Engineers Project Managers, the ISO is available to provide a variety of actions in support of base operation functions. For active Army installations, support is furnished without charge, since Headquarters, Corps of Engineers (HQUSACE), centrally funds the salary and travel costs. The members of the ISO came from the former Center for Public Works (CPW). USACE has abolished CPW and is spreading its mission among the Huntsville Engineering and Support Center, the ISO's, and the Installation Support Division (ISD) of the Military Programs Directorate of HQUSACE. Most ISO members have worked at a DPW, and have several years' experience supporting the DPW from MACOM HQ's, or Corps Districts.

The Louisville District serves as the Center of Expertise for the entire national programs U.S. Army Reserve Command. An important outgrowth from this mission was the assignment for the development and deployment of the Modular Design System (MDS). MDS is an automated CADD based design program that was developed on behalf of the U.S. Army Reserve and Army National Guard. The primary purpose of MDS is to provide a design and programming tool to the Reserve communities that provides a streamlined design and review approach. MDS was fielded in 1995 and has been used successfully on over 50 reserve and several non-reserve type projects. MDS offers predefined solutions to the unique functional and quality requirements that the Army Reserve customer demands. The program averages \$60,000,000 annually and 6-8 new facilities for OCAR. Although, all PM and most design services are performed by LRL, all construction management services are delivered by the respective geographic districts.

Construction Division provides its construction management services over the five-state region and across all programs. The work is carried out principally through the work of approximately 140 full-time permanent field employees in addition to the 30 District office support personnel. To offset year to year vacillation in the programs since 1994 we have averaged approximately 30 contract Construction Management Service Providers (CMS) to supplement our permanent work force. We obtain these services on an as needed basis to fill short-term needs and hard to fill vacancies. Additionally, we have aggressively "teamed" with other Districts to optimize our field presence in the

Chicago, Detroit, St. Louis, and Rock Island areas. Formal MOA's have been signed with three Districts with centralized S&A management remaining in Louisville. This regionalization and sharing of corporate field resources within the seven Districts of LRD, and beyond has allowed greater flexibility in staffing from year to year to meet our customers ever-changing requirements. The combination of permanent staff, CMS, and regionalization has enabled the Louisville District to remain affordable to our customers, avoid new hires for short-term activity, and minimize costly and disruptive PCS moves for our permanent field forces in the Louisville District.

Cross-functional teams and the PMBP continue to forge solid customer support for our multi-faceted programs in Louisville. PM forwards at both Fort Knox and Fort Campbell continue to build our ability to respond to our customers "real-time" needs and greatly enhance our relationships with those installations. Our PM forwards are truly an extension of our customers staff, and able to access and respond first hand to their needs right at their own place of business.

Louisville's construction "Partnering" program has completed its ninth year, and it continues to yield benefits in more timely and higher quality construction for our customers who are also vital shareholders in every partnership. Expanded use of the JOC, IDIQ, and Cost-Reimbursable contracts and the design-build process have also enhanced our ability to provide timely and affordable Engineering and Construction Management services to our many customers of the Louisville District.

From a time not so long ago when our survival to the year 2000 was seriously questioned, we look forward into the new millennium with heightened optimism and solid future in the Louisville District.

Please visit the Louisville District Homepage at www.lrl.usace.army.mil and also Construction Division's ISO 9002 Web Page at www.lrl.usace.army.mil/cd/iso/iso.htm and Engineering Division's ISO 9001 Web Site at www.lrl.usace.army.mil/ed/iso/iso2.htm.

*POC'S: GENE SOMMERVILLE, CELRL-ED, 502-582-6057
AND GEORGE JAGEMEN, CENRL-CD, 502-582-5623*

[Return to Index of Articles](#)

Reorganization News

ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION REORGANIZATION CONTINUES

The transition team has been hard at work since their assignment on 31 January 2000. Job descriptions have been rewritten and the statement of missions and functions has been rewritten.

The current personnel assigned to the Engineering and Construction Divisions participated in a field trip to the Humphrey's Engineering Center and have been briefed on the center and transportation modes serving the center. The Policy Review Branch has moved from the Kingman Building making the space available for remodeling for Engineering and Construction.

The branch chiefs and team leaders held a joint meeting to bring all leaders up to date on the missions of both of the current organizations. As more information becomes available additional updates will be included in future issues of the E&C News.

POC: CHARLES PEARRE, CECW-EP, 202-761-4531

[Return to Index of Articles](#)

Update

ROUND THE CLOCK CREOSOTE SOIL REMEDIATION CONTINUES THE SOUTHERN MARYLAND WOOD TREATMENT SITE – HOLLYWOOD, MARYLAND

For the past 20 months, on a 24 hour per day, 7 day per week schedule, the two continuous thermal desorption units (CTDUs) at the Southern Maryland Wood Treatment Superfund Remediation Site in Hollywood, Maryland, have been ridding site soils of creosote and pentachlorophenol (PCP) contamination. So far, a total of 200,000 tons of contaminated soils have been treated and approved for backfilling on the 25-acre site grounds. The Environmental Remediation Resident Office (ERRO) of the Baltimore District expects to complete the project this summer, when the total soil treatment tonnage tops 230,000 tons, and the site is left ready for use by the citizens of St. Mary's county.

The operation of a pressure treated wood preservation facility on the project site from 1965 to 1978 resulted in contamination of soils, groundwater, surface water, and stream sediments with wood treatment chemicals. The former plant used unlined lagoons to store chemical wastes, thus allowing substantial amounts of creosote and PCP to reach underlying soils and groundwater. The soils underlying the unlined lagoons and former process affected a 4-acre area making up the largest source pit, designated as Pit 4. Several other source pits, designated 2, 3 and 5, were also created during the operation of the plant due to storage tank leakage and wood storage area runoff. Pit 1, the second largest source pit, 3.5 acres in size, was created during an unsuccessful attempt to bioremediate site pond sludges in the early 1980s. Fortunately, an underlying clay layer has confined the contamination to the upper aquifer and protected deeper drinking water aquifers.

After the local community rejected incineration as a treatment option in 1995, thermal desorption became the remedial approach of choice. Mobilization to the project site began in late 1997 and the construction of site facilities commenced.



The thermal desorption treatment pad, water treatment plant, soil storage barns, site roadways, truck scale and office trailers were among the major preparatory construction tasks. The general approach for treatment activities is the excavation of contaminated soils from a particular source pit, screening the soil to remove any large debris, mechanical feeding into and treatment in one of the thermal desorption units, and returning of the cleaned soil to the excavation area. As is often the case in soil remediation projects, initial tonnage estimates were below actual amounts. The initial estimate of 145,000 tons grew to 245,000 tons as excavation

activities and sample screening continued to indicate additional amounts of soil requiring treatment.

Site soils are processed through one of two continuous thermal desorption units (CTDUs). These CTDUs, each 60 feet long, resemble large locomotives with their long rotating process drums and burner stacks. Soils maintain a residence time of 10 minutes within the rotating kiln and are heated to 900 degrees F. This temperature ensures volatilization of all creosote and PCP constituents from the soil particles. The CTDU has three separate burner zones, which are designed to afford easy control of internal temperatures during operation. Zone temperatures typically reach 1700 degrees F during normal operation. A vapor recovery system consisting of a hot cyclone, quencher/scrubber, and wet electrostatic precipitator (WESP) condense the soil contaminants into a wastewater stream. A flameless thermal oxidizer (FTO) polishes remaining constituents from the vapor to maintain air discharge quality levels.



The average combined treatment rate since start-up for both CTDUs, accounting for maintenance and other shutdown time, is 15 tons per hour. Production rates are generally slower during the winter months and have been as high as 21 tons per hour during a given week's time in the summer. An active soil mixing program has enabled the CTDUs to treat all site soils, which vary in contaminant



concentrations and characteristics. A significant cost savings is realized since highly contaminated soils were initially believed to be too "hot" for treatment in the CTDUs and would thus incur off-site disposal costs.

During initial tests of the soil conveyance equipment, inclined screw soil conveyors were unsuccessful in moving soils. Inclined screw conveyors on both the feed and discharge ends of the units were replaced with inclined belt

conveyors to maintain continuous operation. To provide a further increase in feed capacity into the units the single horizontal feed screws which provide feed soil directly into the rotating kilns were replaced with larger and more powerful twin screw units. This improved feed system enabled an input rate of up to 15 tons of soil per hour for each unit. Experience has indicated that smooth and consistent operation of a CTDU is achieved in the 10 ton per hour throughput range. An operational rate of 80% enables a typical combined average throughput rate of 16 tons per hour.

Solids loading in the CTDU condensate stream are several times greater than design expectations. Additional settling tanks and an additional clarifier and filter press system have been added to the

water treatment plant to remove the extra solids. The increase in solids loading has also made operation of the water plant's Ultraviolet Oxidation (UVOX) system problematic.

At present, source pits 2 and 3 are completely excavated, treated soil replaced for backfill, and the surfaces regraded and seeded. Pit 1 is 98% treated and backfilled and functions as a holding area for the large amounts of treated soils awaiting replacement into Pit 4.



Remediation personnel will perform sample screening in a small tributary which received run-off flow from the former process lagoon and process area. Any sediment deposits above clean-up levels will be excavated and treated on-site.

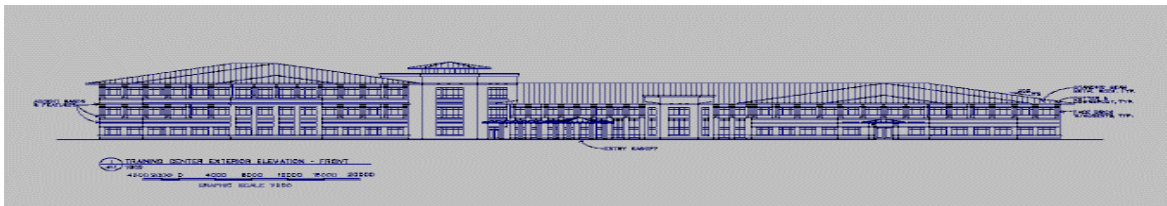
Upon final completion of soil treatment and backfilling, site contours will be regraded to near pre-existing conditions. Backfilled areas will undergo seeding to restore surface vegetation and maintain erosion control. Site monitoring wells are to be monitored for 2 to 5 years to verify complete removal of source contamination and protection of the

underlying deep groundwater aquifers. All site equipment will be decontaminated, dismantled and removed from the site. Contract costs are expected to total 47 million dollars, equating to a soil remediation cost in the range of 200 dollars per ton. After final demobilization and site restoration this former Superfund site will then be safe for residential, industrial, or agricultural use.

POC: Ed HUGHES, CENAB-CO-ER, 301-373-5471

[Return to Index of Articles](#)

DESIGN – BUILD LESSONS LEARNED FROM CONSTRUCTION PERSPECTIVE 99TH RSC HEADQUARTERS AND OMS/AMSA FACILITIES, PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA



- Multi-District Coordination for BCOE Reviews
- Multi-District Coordination for Best Value Design-Build Contractor Selection

The project consists of development of 35 acres for a Training Center and OMS/AMSA buildings. The training center will be approximately 12,356 SM (137,000 sf) and includes administrative spaces, classrooms, an assembly hall, an arms vault, physical examination areas and associated support spaces. The OMS and AMSA structures includes 1486 SM (16,511 sf) of vehicle maintenance, an Arms Shop and supporting spaces, with an additional unheated storage building. Development of the site includes

demolition of existing structures, roadway/parking lot improvements and site utilities. Award was made on 15 April 1999 to Burchick Construction Company, Inc. for design-build services in the amount of \$21,326,000. NTP for the design was issued on 13 May 1999 and the contract performance period is 665 calendar days. The current contract amount is \$23,996,000 and the current performance period remains at 665 calendar days.

Louisville District, the Center of Standardization for Army Reserve Centers and National Guard Armories, serves as the Program and Project Manager and Design Manager, while Baltimore District serves as the Construction Management agent for this project. Coordination between the two Districts during the development of the RFP for the design-build requirements was extensive. Baltimore District's input for the development of this RFP included a complete BCOE certification and development of the construction portion of the RFP proposal requirements.

During the BCOE review process, which included 'on-board' reviews at the customer's request, critical issues to the construction process were brought forward. Of particular concern to Baltimore District were two prevalent issues that occur repeatedly during design-build projects. First, the RFP documents must clearly define the extent of design submissions required after award. In addition, determining the extent of Government approval for the design analysis and subsequent design submissions must be identified and clearly stated. Next, the RFP documents must clearly identify that the design-build contractor is the Architect of Record. As such, the Architect of Record is responsible for resolution of all issues during the design and construction phases. Moreover, the RFP documents must expressly state that resolution of field conditions and requests for information are the responsibility of the Architect of Record and not the Government.

The other primary issue for Baltimore District was to ensure that the criteria for selection of the construction contractor were performance-based criteria. It must include more than just capabilities based on a firm's experience and that of its key personnel. Particular importance was focused on contractors that have received higher than average past performance ratings and other pertinent criteria such as quality control, safety performance and proposed schedules for both design and construction.

Under Louisville's leadership, the Project Manager and Design Team, supported by RSP Architects, coordinated realistic schedules for development of the RFP requirements and ensured that feedback from each stakeholder was included in the end product. The team established clearly defined roles through the Project Management Plan. Louisville District was the technical lead for the design proposal requirements, while Baltimore District served as technical lead for the construction portion of the proposal requirements. The expertise of the two teams became evident. The design options that were solicited under Louisville's input and the construction performance issues that were identified through Baltimore District's input streamlined the evaluation of the proposals. Using a two-step best value source selection, the evaluation of the proposals permitted a field of five offerors to propose further developed design proposals and detailed information on the construction schedule, safety performance, specific quality control issues and subcontractor qualifications. The value of the combined expertise led to a contract award for the highest quality design features, with a high performing design and construction team.

Benefits of Pre-Award Partnering Between Districts:

- Successful Award to High Performing Design/Construction Firm, with Upgraded Finishes
- Awarded Substantially Less Than Funds Available
- Awarded on Schedule

Stakeholders: The US Army Reserves, Louisville and Baltimore Districts, RSP Architects, Burchick Construction Co., Inc., Gossen Livingston Architects, Inc.

POC: MARY WIEDORFER, P.E., CENAB-CO-CN, 410-962-4838

[Return to Index of Articles](#)

CADD/GIS TECHNOLOGY SYMPOSIUM AND EXPOSITION 2000

The CADD/GIS Technology Center for Facilities, Infrastructure, and Environment is pleased to announce its triennial Symposium and Exposition. *Symposium 2000* represents the fourth Center-sponsored gathering of CADD, GIS, and facility management users from the Federal government community. The last meeting drew over 1,200 attendees. Reflecting changes in the mission of the Center, Symposium 2000 will be sponsored by 12 Federal agencies. With over 100 exhibition booths highlighting the latest technology and achievements in CADD, GIS, facility management, remote sensing, hydrography, and mapping this Symposium is guaranteed to surpass all others. The Symposium will be held at the Adam's Mark Hotel in St. Louis, Missouri, May 23-25, 2000. Registration for attendance or exhibit booth reservations can be made at the Center's web site at http://tsc.wes.army.mil/Center_Info/symposium/2000/.

POC: NANCY BLYLER, CECW-EP, 202-761-8893

[Return to Index of Articles](#)

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY DIVISION SETTING A NEW PACE FOR PARTNERING

Mississippi Valley Division (CEMVD) felt a decline in partnering concern and impetus. Rather than stand by and watch a basic tenet of good business relationship building fade away, CEMVD took action. An unprecedented partnering initiative has been launched in CEMVD.

Beginning through meetings with the Mississippi Valley Flood Control Branch of AGC, a joint issue resolution committee was developed to bring partnering back in focus. This team took several significant actions including drafting standard language for use in construction contracts. The most significant action, however, was the planning and execution of a Division-wide partnering session between leadership of the Corps and leadership of the AGC. The Commanding General, MG Phillip R. Anderson, as well as the President of the AGC Branch, Bill Carder, participated in a full-blown, formally-facilitated partnering session. All six CEMVD District Engineers, Chiefs of Contracting and Chiefs of Construction participated. Twenty-three leaders from the contractor community represented AGC.

This partnering session begins an historic relationship with contractor partners in CEMVD. Communications lines were refreshed and a new understanding of mutual interests was defined. It was only a day and a half but it laid the foundation for a strong relationship to be built. A partnership agreement was signed, documenting the principles, values and mutual objectives of the partnership. This initial CEMVD wide partnership will spawn district partnership meetings in each of the six districts.

CEMVD Challenges the rest of the Corps to refresh its knowledge and embrace of partnering. It is a basic business relationship approach that is indispensable for our success. We can't build our projects without the contractor community so let's optimize our potential for success through partnering.

POC: J. LEO PHILLIPS, CEMVK-CD, 601-638-9196

[Return to Index of Articles](#)

ACASS Y2K PROBLEM

The Architect-Engineer Contract Administration Support System (ACASS) has been smitten by the Y2K bug. Due to a glitch in reading dates, several hundred Standard Forms (SF) 254 were recently deleted from ACASS. The ACASS Center is working hard to restore the data and fix the problem. Until this problem is resolved, DO NOT eliminate firms from selection because they do not have a SF 254. Instead, contact a firm directly for its SF 254 if you did not receive a SF 254 with a SF 255 and can not find the SF 254 in ACASS. A notice will be posted on the ACASS website when the data is restored.

POC: DON EVICK, CEMP-EC, 202-761-1053

[Return to Index of Articles](#)

Dam Safety

ICODS TECHNICAL SEMINAR No.7, SPILLWAY GATES

The ICODS Technical Seminar No. 7 at Emmitsburg, Maryland, was a great success. Over 80 individuals for Corps of Engineers offices ranging from HQUSACE to field offices across the country heard an outstanding group of national and international speakers discuss the design, construction, inspection, operations, and maintenance of spillway gates. Corps of Engineers attendees represented over 30% of the total attendees at the seminar. From the presentations it was evident that our past inspection, operations, and maintenance programs have positioned the Corps as a leader in the field. The speakers also discussed actions to be taken to keep good gates operating well in the future. One of the keys to future operations is a good dam safety program today and good operations and maintenance plans for all structures.

POC: CHARLES PEARRE, CECW-EP, 202-761-4531

[Return to Index of Articles](#)

Information

NORTHEAST TRAINING WORKSHOP STREAM RESTORATION: NATURAL CHANNEL DESIGN

The Northeast Training Workshop Stream Restoration: Natural Channel Design will be held May 23-25, 2000 in Fairlee, Vermont. This workshop will focus upon natural channel design to help solve and prevent flooding, erosion, water quality, and habitat loss problems. This workshop is being cooperatively conducted and sponsored by the Association of State Wetland Managers, the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.

The workshop will provide training and will help develop a network of northeast agencies, groups and organizations interested in natural channel design.

Stream restoration experts with extensive on the ground experience will teach the workshop. The workshop will be designed with simultaneous sessions for both individuals with little background and experience in stream restoration and more advanced students. We will address both the technical aspects of natural channel design and putting together projects. The workshop will include an optional field trip to nearby sites.

The training goals for the workshop are to promote and build the capabilities of local governments, states, and federal agencies, not for profits and others in the Northeast to protect and restore rivers, streams and associated wetlands with special emphasis upon natural channel design for problem prevention and problem solving. More specific goals include:

- Help attendees understand river stability and watershed context,
- Provide guidance on fluvial geomorphological concepts and natural channel design in the context of problem prevention and problem solving,
- Help attendees understand how to initiate, plan, fund, and implement a stream or river restoration project,
- Develop a northeastern network of federal, state, and local agency staff, not for profits, academics, consultants, and others interested in natural channel design.

Materials will be prepared for the training workshop and distributed to all attendees. They will include existing papers (on stream restoration), annotated bibliographies, memos, and newly prepared materials.

A registration fee of \$135.00 will be charged to attendees. Speakers, not for profits, and students will be charged a reduced fee of \$65.00. All attendees are expected to either stay in the hotel and pay this fee, or stay elsewhere and pay a *day commuter rate for breaks and lunch*.

Please submit an abstract of 200-300 words by April 1, 2000 if you are interested in making a presentation or presenting a poster session/display at this workshop. We are looking for good "nut and bolt", "how to" presentations and posters concerning stream restoration.

The mixers/poster sessions will allow individuals and groups involved with stream restoration projects from the Northeast to meet each other, share their projects, and share lessons learned. Poster/exhibit space will be free to exhibitors paying the conference registration fee. Contact ASWM concerning poster and exhibit spaces.

The Lake Morey Inn Resort is located in the heart of Vermont and is on Lake Morey. It is an easy 2½ hour drive from Boston and a 5-hour drive from New York via major interstates. The Resort is off exit 15 of I-91, on the Vermont/New Hampshire border. (A 20 minute drive from the I-89 and I-91 intersection in White River Junction, VT.) U.S. Air and Delta airlines offer daily service from Boston and New York to Lebanon, New Hampshire, a short 30 minutes South of Lake Morey Inn. Taxis and rental cars are available at the airport.

Participants can make their own hotel reservation by calling the Inn at 1-800-423-1211 by April 23, 2000. Please be sure to mention that you are with the Northeast Stream Restoration Workshop. A \$50 per person deposit is required to confirm all room reservations. Check in time is 2:00p.m. and checkout time is 11:00a.m. Lake Morey Inn accepts MasterCard, Visa, cash or personal check for payment of individual accounts. A cancellation fee two weeks prior to arrival will be subject to a \$15.00 cancellation fee. The deposit will be forfeited for any cancellations received after that date.

A Day Commuter Rate of \$18 per person per day for first two days and \$7 for the final day is available for attendees not staying in the hotel. This includes room rental fees, morning break, lunch (on days 1 and 2) and afternoon breaks. (This is in addition to the workshop registration fee.)

You can obtain additional information on the workshop by contacting The Association of State Wetland Managers (ASWM), P.O. Box 269, Berne, NY 12023-9746; 518-872-1804; Fax: 518-872-2171; E-mail: aswm@aswm.org; Web site: <http://www.aswm.org>.

POC: BEVERLEY GETZEN, CECW-PD, 202-761-1980

[Return to Index of Articles](#)

CADD/GIS TECHNOLOGY CENTER PRODUCTS

Two products produced by the CADD/GIS Technology Center, which should be of use to Corps Engineering personnel are highlighted here.

1. For those involved in surveying and mapping, the Survey Engineering and Monument Management System (SEMMS) is a useful utility software that can be used to identify locations of monuments used in their daily activities. This software provides the means for survey control data entry, retrieval and maintenance. It also contains all the National Geodetic Survey control data for the entire United States and its territories. The Center developed a web-enabled SEMMS in order to serve data to the public. The software has been installed at the Memphis District and can be accessed at <http://www.mvm.usace.army.mil/Survey/MvmSEMMS/>. You can add your survey control data to the system, and serve it on the web. This eliminates the need to search for this data on charts and answer the public's questions as to where these monuments are located. Check it out!

2. The final Spatial Data Standards/Facility Management Standards (SDS/FMS) Release 1.90 is now available. Check out the new web site for these projects at <http://tsc.wes.army.mil/products/TSSDS-TSFS/tssds/html/>. Click on "Download Standards" to get this new version. The revised ArcInfo, AutoCAD, and MicroStation Symbol Sets can be downloaded from "Symbolology". The SDS/FMS Release 1.90 CD-ROMs are available for distribution and are currently being distributed to the "SDS/FMS Registered Users" (i.e., the individuals returning a Registration Card). To request a SDS/FMS Release 1.90 CD-ROM, submit your name, complete mailing address, and telephone number to carpenb@wes.army.mil. If you are using GIS in your job, you need to check these out.

POC: JEAN MCGINN, CEMP-EE, 202-761-1052

[Return to Index of Articles](#)

SEISMIC REQUIREMENTS FOR VERTICAL ABOVE GROUND FUEL STORAGE TANKS (AST)

The services use standard design AW 78-24-27 for vertical AST, which requires tanks to be constructed in accordance with an American Petroleum Institute standard (API 650). API 650 does not contain the latest seismic requirements. Executive Order 12699 requires use of National Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program (NEHRP) standards. The NEHRP standards are the basis of the recently issued TI 809-04, Seismic Design for Buildings. Therefore ensure that TI 809-04 is used for all vertical AST designs. The standard design is undergoing revision and when finished will incorporate latest seismic requirements.

*POC'S: DALE H. OTTERNESS, CEMP-ET, 202-761-8621
AND CHARLES GUTLERLET, CEMP-ET, 202-761-4802*

[Return to Index of Articles](#)

OUTSTANDING CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Pacific Ocean Division's Japan Engineer District (CEPOJ) offers unique career and cultural opportunities for a variety of personnel in several district and construction field offices. There are currently several positions either open or about to open for GS-11 construction representatives, GS-11

or GS-12 project engineers, GS-12 specifications engineers, GS-9 CADD technician, and GS-13 QA Section Chief. The positions are located in the Misawa Resident Office, the Yokota Resident Office, the Kanagawa Resident Office, the Iwakuni Project Office, Okinawa Area Office and the Japan District Office. The Resident and Project Offices are under the direct supervision of Engineering and Construction (E&C) Division located in the District Office at Camp Zama.

The Misawa Resident Office is located at Misawa Air Base, in Northern Japan about 450 miles north of Tokyo. Misawa AB is on the edge of Misawa City, a farming community with moderate growth and a population of approximately 42,000. With none of the smog, congestion, and hectic pace of major metropolitan areas like Tokyo, the scenic Misawa area has mountains to the west and the Pacific Ocean five miles to the east. Climate is similar to that of southern New England, with beautiful spring and fall seasons, chilly winters, and mild summers. Monthly average temperatures range from 22 degrees F. in February to 79 degrees F. in August. Snowfall of about 120 inches per year limits the primary construction season to the April through November period. Moderate to heavy rainfall occurs in late June to early July. Total base population is about 15,000 including Army, Navy, Air Force, Japan Air Self Defense forces, and US civilians. It's the home of the Air Force's 35th Fighter Wing. Kids love this place! Most of the positions open or opening in E&C Division are in Misawa.

The Yokota Resident Office is located at Yokota Air Base, in central Japan about 30 miles west of Tokyo. Yokota AB is in an urban area near a mountain range and is an hour by train from downtown Tokyo. Weather is similar to Richmond, Virginia.

The Kanagawa Resident Office and the Japan District Office are located at Camp Zama, in central Japan about 35 miles southwest of Tokyo. Camp Zama is in an urban area about an hour's ride from Yokota and Tokyo. Its climate is similar to Yokota's.

The Iwakuni Project Office is located at Iwakuni Marine Corps Air Station, in southern Japan about 500 miles south of Tokyo. Iwakuni MCAS is on the Inland Sea, about 40 miles south of Hiroshima, in a beautiful part of southern Japan. Its climate is similar to Jacksonville, Florida.

The Okinawa Area Office is located in Okinawa, south of Japan, about 1000 miles south of Tokyo. Okinawa is the largest island in the Ryukyu Island chain and has a climate similar to Key West, Florida.

Japan is actually a sparsely populated country, with most of the landscape comprised of mountains and woodlands. Where flat, habitable terrain occurs, the population is dense. Living conditions on the military Installations are similar to those in most American cities. Most housing is new or fairly new and facilities at all Installations are being continuously upgraded as part of a massive Facilities Improvement Program (FIP) funded by the Japanese Government. The Japan Engineer District is in charge of design and construction surveillance of work accomplished under the Japan FIP. There is probably not another construction program like FIP in the world. Our field offices oversee construction placement that averages over \$850 Million annually. CEPOJ's U.S. funded construction program averages about \$40 Million placement annually. CEPOJ provides the opportunity of a lifetime for Engineering and Construction personnel and their families. It's one of the Corps' best kept secrets.

Quality of life throughout Japan and Okinawa is excellent and includes free on-base housing and utilities or adequate Living Quarters Allowance for those living off post. Employees receive a tax-free

Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) and enjoy full U.S. Postal Service, on base medical and dental service, base exchange and commissary privileges, gymnasiums, U.S. schools from K-12, churches, and virtually all of the comforts of home. The Installations have a variety of places for dining out, from fast food to full service dining and there are many reasonably priced restaurants off-base. Japan and Okinawa have very low crime rates as compared with the United States. Personal safety is one of the great benefits for employees and their family members. For golfers, the Installations have excellent golf courses with annual memberships generally about \$200 and members do not pay a greens fee. It's nice having a golf course right on the Installation where you live. For spouses, there's an excellent opportunity to earn very good money teaching conversational English to Japanese students. No degree is required and you can do it right in your home. All in all, there are a great many benefits to a tour of duty in CEPOJ.

Hopefully this brief picture of Japan Engineer District has encouraged you to find out more about this unique opportunity. Our CPOC personnel office is located in Anchorage, Alaska and uses the Resumix system for taking applications. Job announcements are posted in the Army Personnel websites. If you are one of the technically competent, self-starting, team oriented individuals, we're seeking and have questions or concerns you'd like answered, please contact Mr. Don Bleibtrey, Chief, Construction Branch, or Mr. Stuart Houck, Chief, Engineering and Construction Division, CEPOJ, via fax at 011-81-3117-63-3868, or by Corps of Engineers email, or by phone. Look us up on the USACE email address book or use our email addresses donald.j.bleibtrey@poj.usace.army.mil or stuart.d.houck@poj.usace.army.mil.

*POC'S: DON BLEIBTREY, CEPOJ--EC-C, 011-81-3117-63-3868
AND STUART HOUCK, CEPOJ-EC, 011-81-3117-63-3373*

[Return to Index of Articles](#)

CAREER OPPORTUNITY - KANSAS CITY DISTRICT

The Kansas City District is in the process of recruiting for a Supervisory Hydraulic Engineer, GS-810-13 position. The position is in the Hydrology and Hydraulics Section of the Hydrologic Engineering Branch. The announcement is posted on the Army's website <http://www.cpol.army.mil>. The announcement, which is number GH00A3185, is currently open with a closing date of 10 April 2000. All qualified personnel are encouraged to consider this position.

POC: BILL ZANER, CENWK-EC, 816-983-3178

[Return to Index of Articles](#)

CALL FOR PAPERS FOR INTERNATIONAL NAVIGATION ASSOCIATION

The International Navigation Association (PIANC) has issued a call for technical papers for the Buenos Aires Seminar which is sponsored by the Permanent Commission on Development and Cooperation (PCDC) and the Camara Argentina de Consultores. Papers are invited on the following subjects: Inland Waterways and Shipping, Waterways Development, Fleet Development, Environmental Problems; Inland Terminals, Economical Aspects; Capital and Maintenance Dredging; Maritime Ports and Shipping; Port and Channel Planning; Container Terminals; Dry Bulk Terminals; Environmental and Safety Aspects; Multi Modal Transport; Fishing Ports; and Coastal Zone Management. A one or two page abstract should be submitted to reach the Paper Selection Committee not later than 1 May 2000. Abstracts should be send to The Spanish National Section of PIANC, c/o ALATEC, Attn: Mr. Pedro Canalejo, General Manager, FAX 34-91-364-0983 or Email alatec@alatec.es with an information copy to Prof. Ir. H. Velsink, Chairman, PCDC, The Netherlands, FAX: 31-182-571-817 or Email velsink@euronet.nl.

In addition to this call for papers PIANC is sponsoring a competition for the International Gustave Willems Award, which was established as a memorial to Professor Willems, President of PIANC from 1956-1982. The award is given for the most outstanding technical paper prepared on design, construction, improvement, maintenance, or operation of inland and maritime waterways (rivers, estuaries, canals, port approaches), inland and maritime ports, and coastal areas. This competition is open to anyone 35 years of age or under. The U.S. Section awards are a \$1,000 Savings Bond; expense-paid trip to the U.S. Section, PIANC Annual Meeting, and a five-year free membership in PIANC. If you win the U.S. Section prize, your paper will be included in the international competition. If you win the international competition the prize consists of a cash award and all expenses paid to attend the next Permanent International Commission meeting.

If you need further information on submitting papers or entering the competition contact the POC listed below.

POC: MARY JANE ROBERTSON, U.S. SECTION, PIANC, 703-428-6286

[Return to Index of Articles](#)

Value Engineering

DEFENSE TO PRESENT TO VALUE ENGINEERING AWARDS

Value Engineering Officers and study teams from four districts including contractor study teams will be honored at a Pentagon ceremony on 2 May 2000 when the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics presents Department of Defense awards.

Brigadier General Griffin, Great Lakes and Ohio Division Commander, and Colonel Ridenour, Pittsburgh District Commander nominated Mr. Ron D'Amico for a Special Department of Defense Award. Mr. D'Amico will be honored for 27 years of Value Engineering leadership, and over \$20 million in District cost savings/avoidance in the most recent 10 years.

Major General Anderson, Mississippi Valley Division Commander, and Colonel Julich, New Orleans District Commander nominated the East Baton Rouge Sanitary Sewer Overflow Value Engineering Team for the 2000 Department of Defense Outstanding Team Award. Mr. Frank Vicidomina, New Orleans District Value Engineering Officer, members of South Atlantic Division/Savannah District's OVEST, and representatives of Dames and Moore A/E Contractor, will be honored for their team work that proffered over \$150 million in technically sound, needed proposals on the \$491 million project.

Brigadier General Capka, South Atlantic Division Commander, and Colonel Schmitt, Savannah District Commander recognized OVEST for leading the Baton Rouge Sanitary Sewer Overflow VE Team in partnership with the New Orleans District. OVEST will also receive the 2000 Department of Defense Outstanding Team Award.

Brigadier General Madsen, South Pacific Division Commander, and Colonel Carroll, Los Angeles District Commander nominated a Corps A/E Contractor, Robinson, Stafford & Rude, for the 2000 Department of Defense Outstanding Contractor Award. Mr. John Robinson will receive the contractor award. Mr. Robinson has repeatedly pleased customers on behalf of the Los Angeles District, by helping them add quality to projects. His VE expertise will have helped the District save taxpayers over \$110 million when all projects go to construction.

[Return to Index of Articles](#)

Architect's Forum

PUBLIC ARCHITECTS TRAINING WORKSHOP

The American Institute of Architects, the AIA Federal Agency Liaison Group, the AIA Government and Industry Affairs department, and the AIA Public Architects Professional Interest Area Knowledge Center are jointly sponsoring the first annual *Public Architects Training Workshop*. This daylong event is to be held on 3 May 2000 in conjunction with the AIA National Convention and Exposition, at the Pennsylvania Convention Center, Philadelphia, PA.

This unprecedented gathering of *public sector architects*, representing local, state, federal and foreign governments, will meet for the purpose of discussing mutual issues and concerns with the business, profession and practice of public architecture. The workshop program will offer nationally prominent speakers, interactive educational, and individual breakout sessions. Topics include the state of the public architect, project delivery and contracting methods, project financing (including public-private partnerships), applying sustainable design to public projects, physical security, and more.

Included in the workshop fee of \$195.00 will be complimentary registration to the AIA National Convention and Exposition, 4-6 May 2000, which will focus on "Livable Communities for American's Future." The AIA convention provides an excellent forum for public/private networking, the privilege to attend any of the over 160 professional training seminars, and the opportunity to view the latest products, services and technologies of over 500 exhibitors.

For more information on the workshop, convention, and to register contact Mr. Stan Bowman, (202) 626-7461 or e-mail bowmans@aiaemail.aia.org. Also visit AIA online at www.aiaonline.com and AIA Philadelphia at www.libertynet.org/aia.

POC: LAWRENCE P. DELANEY, AIA, CEMP-E, 202-761-1545

[Return to Index of Articles](#)

Training

CONFERENCES AS TRAINING

EC 690-1-704, entitled "Civilian Personnel - Conferences as Training Activities" was issued on 1 February 2000. A copy of the circular can be found at <http://www.usace.army.mil/inet/usace-docs/eng-circulars/ec690-1-704/toc.htm>.

The significance of this circular to Engineering and Construction personnel can be found in the types of conferences held by our professional associations. Most of the annual conferences and annual meetings include a sufficient amount of technical training sessions. Professional employees should be encouraged to include these events in their annual training plans.

POC: CHARLES PEARRE, CECW-E, 202-761-4531

[Return to Index of Articles](#)

Open Discussion and Comments

No Discussion and Comment items were received for this month's issue.

(Editors' note: If you want to share your thoughts with our readers regarding a subject of general interest, send an email to the E&C News editor at charles.pearre@usace.army.mil. A synopsis of your comments will be published next time).

Editors' Notes

SUBSCRIBE TO ECNEWS

Engineering and Construction News uses a subscription list on the Corps List Server. The name of the list is LS-ECNEWS. The purpose of the list is to distribute the Civil Works and Military Programs Engineering and Construction community newsletter, *Engineering and Construction News*.

You can subscribe or unsubscribe to LS-ECNEWS by sending an e-mail message to majordomo@usace.army.mil with no subject line and only a single line of text in the message body. That single line of text should have the following format: **subscribe ls-ecnews** or **unsubscribe ls-ecnews**. The List Server system will automatically pick up your originating e-mail address from the message and add it to or delete it from the distribution list.

If you have any questions about the list server, see the List Server E-Mail Delivery System web page at <http://eml01.usace.army.mil/other/listserv.html>. Or you may contact either Denise Massihi or Charles Pearre if you have additional questions on the subscription list.

POC: CHARLES PEARRE, CECW-EP, 202-761-4531

[Return to Index of Articles](#)
